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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY

EMERSON RADIO CORPORATION,

Plaintiff,

v.

EMERSON QUIET KOOL CO. LTD. and HOME EASY LTD.

Defendant.

Civil Action No. 2:17-cv-05358-SDW-LDW

FIRST AMENDED VERIFIED COMPLAINT AND DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

Plaintiff Emerson Radio Corporation ("Plaintiff" or "Emerson Radio"), with offices at 3 University Plaza, Suite 405, Hackensack, New Jersey 07601, by and through its undersigned

attorneys, hereby alleges by way of this First Amended Verified Complaint against Emerson Quiet Kool Co. Ltd. (also known as Emerson Quiet Kool Co, Ltd., LLC) ("EQK") and Home Easy Ltd. ("Home Easy"), both with offices at 1275 Bloomfield Avenue, Unit 141, Building 16, Fairfield, New Jersey 07004 (collectively referred to as "Defendants"), the following:

NATURE AND BASIS OF THE ACTION

- 1. This is an action by Emerson Radio to prevent and restrain Defendants' unauthorized and infringing misappropriation of Emerson Radio's well-known and distinctive EMERSON trademarks, and to halt Defendants' false and misleading marketing. Emerson Radio has sold consumer goods and appliances for over 100 years under the EMERSON name and trademark, garnering extensive and well-established goodwill in the minds of consumers and a strong reputation for the high quality goods that Emerson Radio provides. Looking to trade on the established goodwill of Emerson Radio, Defendants recently began selling and marketing a line of air conditioning products using the mark EMERSON QUIET KOOL. In addition, Defendants are marketing their products using express references to Emerson Radio and its long-standing history, even featuring images of Emerson Radio's branded products on its marketing materials in hopes of misleading consumers to believe that Defendants are somehow affiliated with Emerson Radio.
- 2. To prevent this inevitable confusion and deception of consumers and Defendants' willful intent to trade on Emerson Radio's goodwill, Emerson Radio brings this action asserting claims for trademark infringement pursuant to Section 32 of the Lanham Act (15 U.S.C. § 1114), trademark infringement, unfair competition and false designation of origin pursuant to Section 43(a)(1)(A) of the Lanham Act (15 U.S.C. § 1125(a)(1)(A)), false advertising pursuant to Section 43(a)(1)(B) of the Lanham Act (15 U.S.C. § 1125(a)(1)(B)), cybersquatting under

Section 43(d) of the Lanham Act (15 U.S.C. § 1125(d)), for related claims of trademark infringement, dilution, false designation of origin and unfair competition under the statutory and common law of New Jersey (N.J. Rev. Stat. §56:3-13.16, §56:3-13.20, §56:8-2 and additional provisions of Title 56), and for cancellation of Defendants' United States Registration No. 4,688,893 (15 U.S.C. § 1119). Emerson Radio seeks injunctive relief to prevent Defendants' from further trading on Emerson Radio's goodwill and infringing its trademarks, and further seeks damages, attorneys' fees and other monetary relief.

THE PARTIES

Plaintiff Emerson Radio

- 3. Plaintiff Emerson Radio Corporation is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of Delaware with its principal place of business at 3 University Plaza, Suite 405, Hackensack, New Jersey 07601.
- 4. Emerson Radio is a leading provider of consumer products bearing the EMERSON mark, including but not limited to household appliances such as compact refrigerators, microwave ovens, wine coolers, coffee makers, toaster and convection ovens, clock radios, audio and video equipment, a variety of other housewares, games and toys, and other consumer electronic products (the "Emerson Radio Goods").

Defendants EQK and Home Easy

- 5. Upon information and belief, EQK is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of Delaware incorporated on November 14, 2014 with its principal place of business at 1275 Bloomfield Avenue, Unit 141, Building 16, Fairfield, New Jersey 07004. Upon information and belief, EQK is not registered to do business in the State of New Jersey.
- 6. Upon information and belief, Home Easy is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of Delaware incorporated on June 21, 2016 with its principal place of business at

- 1275 Bloomfield Avenue, Unit 141, Building 16, Fairfield, New Jersey 07004. Upon information and belief, Home Easy is registered to do business in New Jersey.
- 7. Upon information and belief, Home Easy's parent company, Home Easy Industrial Co., Ltd. of Hong Kong ("Home Easy HK"), acquired EQK in 2016.
- 8. Upon information and belief, EQK is a provider of consumer appliances, including window and wall room air conditioning units and dehumidifiers (the "EQK Goods").
- 9. Upon information and belief, the two defendants, Home Easy and EQK, operate together or in concert from the same New Jersey address. Specifically, Home Easy established its headquarters at the Fairfield, NJ address (and its HK parent reports a NJ address as its global operations location), and Home Easy HK established the headquarters of its subsidiary, EQK, at the same address. Exterior signage for both Home Easy and EQK appear on the building at the Unit 141 address shared by EQK and Home Easy in Fairfield, New Jersey:



10. On information and belief, Home Easy also provides the warranty services for the EQK Goods as follows: "Should your EMERSON QUIET KOOL brand Window Air

Conditioner prove to be defective in material or workmanship under normal use during the warranty period listed below, effective from the date of original consumer purchase of the product, Home Easy Ltd. will replace defective part(s)."

- 11. On information and belief, in doing the acts and engaging in the conduct alleged throughout this Verified Complaint, each of the Defendants was the agent, principal, employee, servant, employer, successor, alter ego, joint venturer, partner and/or co-conspirator of each other Defendant in this action.
- 12. On information and belief, each of the Defendants were, at all relevant times mentioned herein, acting within the course and scope of such capacities and with the consent of, the remaining Defendants.
- Wherever reference is made herein to an act of one of the Defendants, such 13. allegation shall be deemed to mean the acts of such Defendant and each of the other Defendants, acting individually, jointly and severally.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 14. This action arises out of violations of the United States Trademark Act (the "Lanham Act") 15 U.S.C. § 1051, et. seq., and subject matter jurisdiction is therefore conferred upon this Court by 28 U.S.C. § 1331 (federal question), and 28 U.S.C. § 1338(a) (action arising under an Act of Congress relating to trademarks or copyrights).
- 15. Supplemental jurisdiction over the related state law claims is conferred upon this Court by 28 U.S.C. § 1367 and 28 U.S.C. § 1338(b).
- 16. Supplemental jurisdiction over the claim for cancellation of EQK's U.S. trademark registration is conferred on this Court by 28 U.S.C. § 1367 and 28 U.S.C. § 1338(b).
- This Court has personal jurisdiction over Defendants because, upon information 17. and belief, (a) EQK and Home Easy each have a principal place of business in this District;

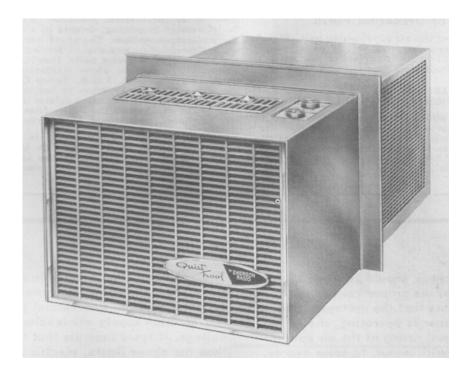
- (b) EQK and Home Easy each have continuous, systematic and substantial business contacts with residents of this District; and (c) EQK and Home Easy have deliberately created confusion among Emerson Radio's existing and potential customers, many of whom reside in New Jersey and caused significant harm to Emerson Radio's reputation, goodwill and trademarks in New Jersey.
- 18. A substantial part of the events or omissions giving rise to the claims occurred in this judicial district. Accordingly, venue is proper in this judicial district pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b) and (c).

GENERAL ALLEGATIONS

Emerson Radio, Its Products, and the Emerson Radio Marks

- 19. Plaintiff Emerson Radio has a continuous history of use of the EMERSON mark dating back to the early 1900s.
- 20. Use began under Emerson Phonograph Company, Inc., founded by Victor Emerson in New York City. It was later renamed Emerson Radio and Phonograph Corporation. The first U.S. trademark registration for the Emerson brand (Reg. No. 108287 for the mark VICTOR H. EMERSON), covering phonographic machines and records, was issued on January 25, 1916.
- 21. Emerson Radio's predecessors then expanded the brand into other product lines and moved its headquarters to New Jersey. In the period surrounding World War II, the company became a leading supplier of radio receivers and television sets sold under the stylized, Emerson "G Clef" mark (Registration No. 409,629, issued in 1944): ** **Emerson** **Lorentz** **Loren
- 22. In 1953, Emerson Radio's predecessors began selling air conditioners following the acquisition of the Quiet-Heet Corporation of Newark, NJ. Those air conditioners were sold

by Emerson Radio under the mark QUIET KOOL by EMERSON RADIO until approximately 1980. A sample image of such a product appears below:



- 23. The predecessors of Emerson Radio eventually merged with and into several other entities, becoming divisions of National Union Electric Corp. in the 1960s. Major Electronics Corp., itself founded in 1948, acquired the Emerson Radio Marks in the 1970s, and operated its business under the name Emerson Radio from headquarters in New Jersey. In 1984, Major Electronics Corp. assigned its Emerson Radio Marks to Emerson Radio Corp., a New Jersey corporation.
- 24. The Emerson Radio Marks and all their related goodwill were then acquired by Plaintiff Emerson Radio in 1984 through a merger of itself with the New Jersey entity of the same name.
- 25. The trademarks owned by Emerson Radio consist of several distinctive marks bearing the name EMERSON and EMERSON (with G-Clef Design) (collectively, the "Emerson Radio Marks"), which have been in continuous uninterrupted use in United States commerce in

connection with a variety of consumer appliances, housewares, consumer electronics and other products since the early 1900s. Emerson Radio has established longstanding common law rights in its Emerson Radio Marks.

26. In addition to its common law rights, Emerson Radio is the owner of several U.S. trademark registrations (and a pending U.S. trademark application) for the Emerson Radio Marks, including those appearing below and in **Exhibit A**:

Mark	Appl. or Reg. No.	Appl. Filing Date and Reg. Date	Goods Covered by the Application / Registration	
፟ Emerson	Reg. No. 409,629 (Supplemental Register)	Filed 8/14/1943; Registered 10/10/1944	International Classes 7, 9, 11, 12, 15 (Prior U.S. Class 21): Radio receiving sets, television receiving sets	
EMERSON	Reg. No. 799,308 (Supplemental Register)	Filed 1/15/1965; Registered 11/23/1965	International Class 9: Tape recorders and accessories therefor	
<u>@</u> Emerson	Reg. No. 855,479	Filed 9/28/1967; Registered 8/27/1968	International Classes 7, 9, 11, 12, 15 (Prior U.S. Class 21): Television receiving sets	
⑤ Emerson	Reg. No. 1,709,884	Filed 11/23/1984; Registered 8/25/1992	International Class 11: Microwave ovens	
⑤ E merson	Reg. No. 1,375,581	Filed 11/16/1984; Registered 12/17/1985	International Class 9: Video recorders, cassette player-recorders	
⑤ Emerson	Reg. No. 1,691,195	Filed 11/8/1984; Registered 6/9/1992	International Class 9: Telephones and structural parts thereof	
⑤ Emerson	Reg. No. 2,931,014	Filed 5/15/1998; Registered 3/8/2005	International Class 7: Electric kitchen appliances, namely, food blenders for domestic use; hand-held food blenders, can openers for household use, hand mixers, mixing machines, food choppers, can openers, combination can opener and knife sharpeners and electric slicers; electric juicers International Class 9: Electric irons International Class 11: Electric appliances, namely, electric kettles, skillets, cookers, coffee makers for domestic use, toasters, and sandwich makers	

Mark	Appl. or Reg. No.	Appl. Filing Date and Reg. Date	Goods Covered by the Application / Registration	
⑤ Fmerson	Reg. No. 2,610,333	Filed 8/11/1999; Registered 8/20/2002	International Class 9: Audio products, namely, audio players, radio receivers, combination systems comprising any combination of the foregoing; telephones	
⑤ Emerson	Reg. No. 3,532,350	Filed 7/30/2002; Registered 11/11/2008	International Class 11: Compact refrigerators as a component of compact combination refrigerator/freezers; compact freezers as a component of compact combination refrigerator/freezers	
<u>@</u> Emerson	Reg. No. 3,497,331	Filed 12/14/ 2005; Registered 9/2/2008	International Class 9: Televisions and television/digital versatile disc player	
@Emerson	Reg. No. 3,814,960	Filed 10/26/2007; Registered 7/6/2010	International Class 9: Telephones, caller identification units, telephone answering machines	
<u>©</u> Emerson	Reg. No. 4,214,261	Filed 2/13/2009; Registered 9/25/2012	International Class 9: Audio players and recorders	
<u>@</u> Emerson	Reg. No. 3,851,674	Filed 2/13/2009; Registered 9/21/2010	International Class 9: Radios incorporating clocks, portable and non-portable docking stations for mounting, charging and powering portable and handheld audio players	
@Emerson	Reg. No. 4,671,987	Filed 1/26/2009; Registered 1/13/2015	International Class 11: Compact refrigerators, compact freezers, microwave ovens, portable ice making machines International Class 21: Wine accessories, namely, electronic wine bottle openers, battery operated wine bottle openers	
@ Emerson	Reg. No. 4,154,588	Filed 9/29/2009; Registered 6/5/2012	International Class 9: Camcorder	
<u>@</u> Emerson	Reg. No. 4,147,139	Filed 3/5/2009; Registered 5/22/2012	International Class 9: Combination televisions with video recorders; video players and recorders; digital cameras and camcorders	
© Emerson	Reg. No. 3,888,091	Filed 3/5/2009; Registered 12/7/2010	International Class 8: Electric shavers and hair trimmers International Class 9: headphones; corded wireless headsets, hands free portable speaker system car kits comprised of a handset, speaker, adaptor power cable and charger; portable fabric steamers International Class 11: Electrically-heated mugs and lanterns for household use International Class 21: Non-metal coin bank	

Mark	Appl. or Reg.	Appl. Filing	Goods Covered by the Application / Registration		
	No.	Date and			
		Reg. Date			
@Emerson	Application	Filed	International Class 9: Radios incorporating clocks;		
	No.	12/21/2016;	telephones; telescoping arms for holding mobile devices		
	87/276,120	Not yet	and cell phones, namely, selfie sticks; telephone, cell phone		
		registered	and mobile device accessories, namely, speakers; telephone		
			equipment, namely, caller identification boxes; headsets for		
			telephones, cell phones and mobile devices; telephone		
			answering machines; cameras; camera kits comprising bike		
			and helmet mounts and waterproof cases; video cameras;		
			memory cards for cameras; tablet computers; devices for		
			hands-free use of mobile phones; binoculars; binoculars		
			with built-in digital cameras; mini-binoculars; telescopes;		
			electronic coin banks; wireless audio speakers; kitchen		
			scales; electronic coin sorters; emergency auto kits,		
			comprised of a rain poncho, a light mounted on a headband,		
			a jumper cable set, rubber grip gloves, a tire pressure gauge,		
			adhesive bandages and disinfectant pads, and tweezers;		
			televisions; combination units comprised of televisions and		
			DVD players/recorders; electronic LED signs; luminous		
			signs; solar-powered address stakes; electronic tags for		
			goods		
			International Class 28: Games, namely, board games,		
			tabletop games, parlor games, portable and handheld		
			games, travel games, non-electronic skill games; apparatus		
			for electronic games other than those adapted for use with		
			an external display screen or monitor; drumsticks; candy		
			dispensers		

- 27. A true and correct copy of the registration certificate for each of the aforementioned trademark registrations and a true and correct copy of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office's status record (including available data regarding any assignments) for each of the aforementioned application and registrations are attached hereto as Ex. A.
- 28. At all times relevant hereto, Emerson Radio has been the owner of all right, title, and interest in and to the Emerson Radio Marks. The trademark registrations for the Emerson Radio Marks are valid and subsisting and in full force and effect. Many of the registrations listed in Paragraph 26 are also incontestable under 15 U.S.C. § 1065.
- 29. Today, Emerson Radio and its licensees sell the Emerson Radio Goods in the United States primarily through national big box stores and mass merchandisers, both in store and online, including Walmart, Fred Meyer, The Home Depot and Sears. They also sell the

Emerson Radio Goods through discount retailers and, to a lesser degree, via Internet marketplaces such as Wayfair.com and Amazon.com. Emerson Radio Goods are generally sold at a low to moderate price point (for example, ranging from approximately \$17.00 for clock radios to approximately \$200.00 for microwaves and \$300-\$500 for certain compact refrigerators) to deliver a high value proposition to consumers.

30. While Emerson Radio does not currently sell window casement air conditioners, it offers a wide variety of home appliance products under the Emerson brand targeted towards the same type of household consumer. Some of the Emerson Radio home appliances sold today under the Emerson Radio Marks are shown below (not to scale):



Microwave oven



Wine cooler



Convection oven



Compact refrigerator/freezer



Clock radio

- 31. Sales of goods sold in the United States under the Emerson Radio brand have reached billions of dollars over the past several decades. Indeed, direct product sales of the Emerson Radio Goods totaled over \$120 million in the past three fiscal years alone, plus hundreds of millions of dollars more in product sales by Emerson Radio's authorized licensees during this period. To grow its business, Emerson Radio has focused lately on significant product development, creating new lines and expanding categories of products. Indeed, Emerson Radio has launched or will soon launch over 20 new SKUs just this fiscal year.
- 32. Emerson Radio, along with its predecessors and licensees, has expended significant resources to market and promote the Emerson Radio Goods in connection with the Emerson Radio Marks. Over the past 10 fiscal years, Emerson Radio expended nearly \$35 million on advertising and promotional efforts, a substantial portion of which was co-op advertising (*i.e.*, ads specifically mentioning products of manufacturers who repay the retailers for all or part of the cost of the ad) with major big box stores such as Walmart and Target.
- 33. Emerson Radio is known for its high quality consumer products. Emerson Radiobranded products have received several accolades and market recognition:
- (1) In 2000, Emerson Radio received the Good Housekeeping "Good Buy 2000 Award" for an alarm clock, as one of the seven most innovative products of the year (Volume 230, Dec 2000).
- (2) In 2006 and 2007, Emerson Radio was named "Partner of the Year" by Target for its "innovative leadership, superior business practices and commitment to (Target's) 12 -

core strategies of Differentiation, Value and Reliability," which was the first instance of a repeat winner in the housewares category. (Available at http://www.marketwired.com/press-release/emerson-radio-receives-partner-award-excellence-from-target-corporation-second-straight-amex-msn-730188.htm, last visited September 7, 2017).

- (3) In 2011, One of Emerson Radio's clock radios was featured as a commemorative U.S. postage stamp.
- (4) An Emerson Radio microwave is currently featured as an "Amazon's Choice," a rating which according to Amazon "recommends highly rated, well-priced products available to ship immediately." (Available at

https://www.amazon.com/s/ref=nb_sb_noss_2?url=search-alias%3Daps&field-keywords=emerson+microwave&rh=i%3Aaps%2Ck%3Aemerson+microwave, last visited September 7, 2017).

True copies of the foregoing items are attached hereto as **Exhibit B**.

- 34. As a direct result of Emerson Radio's sales, advertising and marketing over many decades, the public has come to recognize the Emerson Radio Marks as exclusively identifying Emerson Radio's high-quality home appliances and other consumer products. Emerson Radio has developed secondary meaning in its Emerson Radio Marks, and the Emerson Radio Marks have generated significant and valuable goodwill.
- 35. The distinctive Emerson Radio Marks and the Emerson Radio Goods offered under those marks have come to be associated in the minds of consumers with their exclusive source: Emerson Radio.

Defendants' Wrongful Acts

- 36. Upon information and belief, EQK is a provider of consumer appliances, including but not limited to a series of air conditioners and dehumidifiers (the "EQK Goods").
- 37. Upon information and belief, on or about May 2017, Defendants launched the EQK Goods under the trademark EMERSON QUIET KOOL.
- 38. Upon information and belief, the EQK Goods are low to moderately priced and offered for sale in big box and online retailers including The Home Depot, Walmart, Amazon.com and Wayfair.com, targeted towards homeowners, renters, and other consumers seeking appliances for everyday living.
- 39. The EQK Goods display a stylized EMERSON QUIET KOOL mark in the form appearing below:





- 40. Defendants also promote the EQK Goods through the website associated with the domain <<u>emersonquietkool.com></u> (the "EQK Website").
- 41. From at least June 2017 until July 28, 2017 (when Defendants removed text and images from the EQK Website in response to Emerson Radio's cease and desist letter of July 6,

2017, as alleged in paragraphs 86-87, below), the EQK Website stated that EQK has operated and sold air conditioners since 1949:

Emerson Quiet Kool

Since 1949

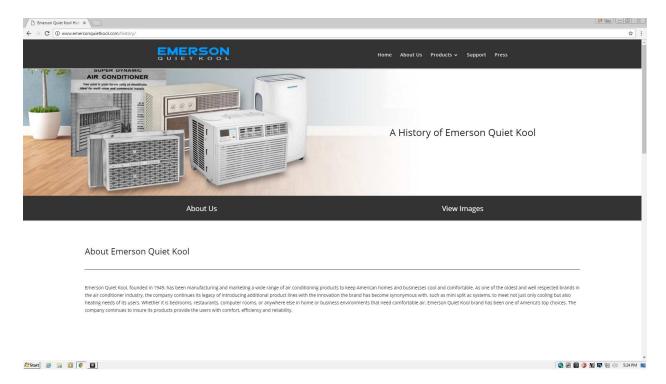
Screen images of the EQK Website as it appeared until July 28, 2017 are attached at Exhibit C.

42. Home Easy's marketing materials (copies attached at **Exhibit D**) include a similar claim, which upon information and belief have remain unchanged in response to Emerson Radio's cease and desist letter:

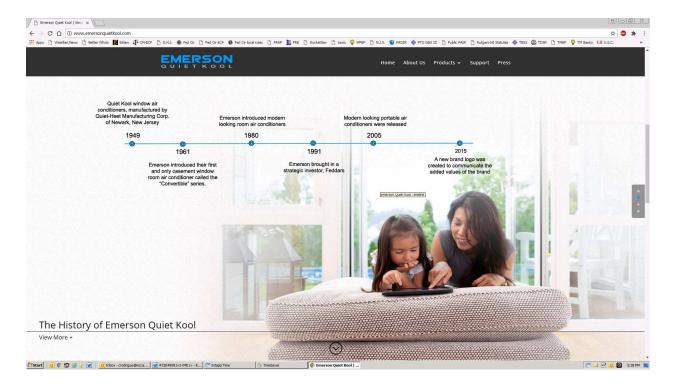
67-Years' Trust (since 1949)

43. Until July 28, 2017, the EQK Website (Ex. C) further stated:

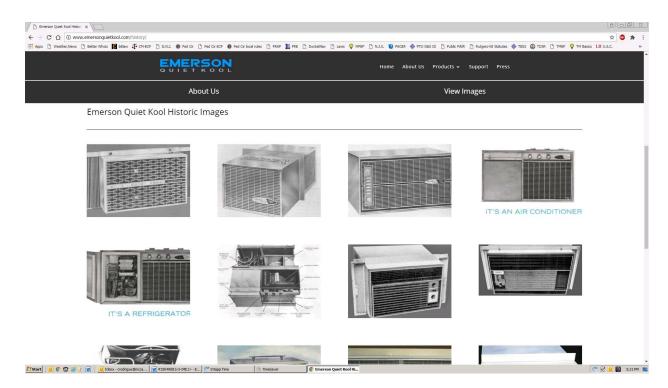
Emerson Quiet Kool, founded in 1949, has been manufacturing and marketing a wide range of air conditioning products to keep American homes and businesses cool and comfortable. As one of the oldest and well respected brands in the air conditioner industry, the company continues its legacy of introducing additional product lines with the innovation the brand has become synonymous with

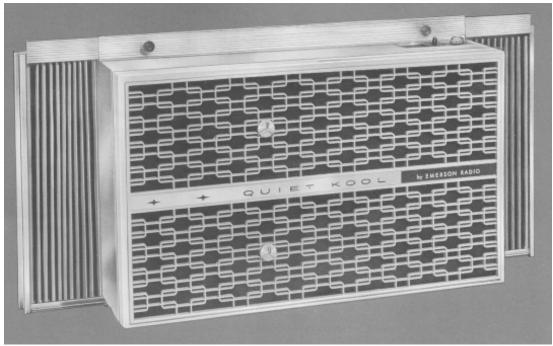


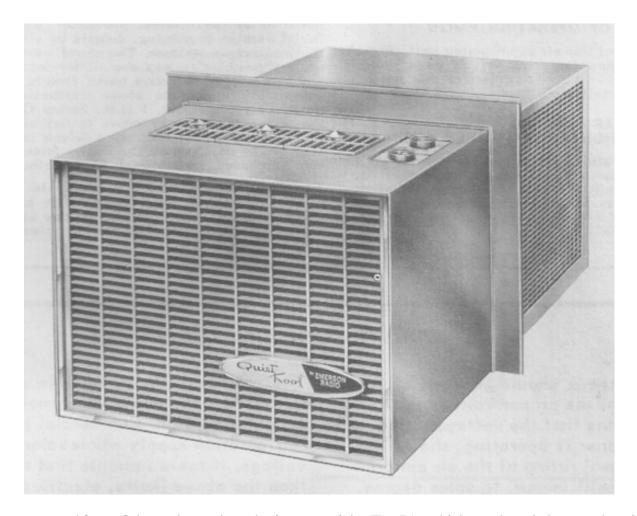
44. Until July 28, 2017, the EQK Website (Ex. C) further included a timeline stating that "Quiet Kool window air conditioners, manufactured by Quiet-Heet Manufacturing Corp. of Newark, New Jersey" were introduced in 1949 followed by "Emerson" introducing certain air conditioners in 1961 and 1980, as depicted in the following screenshot:



45. In addition, under the heading "Emerson Quiet Kool Historic Images," the EQK Website (Ex. C), as it appeared until July 28, 2017, displayed a number of historical images of air conditioners (including one displaying the year 1958), several of which clearly display the Emerson Radio name:







46. Other sales and marketing materials (Ex. D), which are branded not only with EQK's brand but also with the Home Easy brand, display images of Emerson Radio's classic products, such as its radios and televisions, which upon information and belief have remain unchanged in response to Emerson Radio's cease and desist letter:

Born and grew out of New Jersey in 1949 2 factories, 1 in Woodbridge and 1 in Dover, NJ Started to use the EQK brand in 1957 One of the oldest and well-respected American Aircon brand Known for comfort, innovation and reliability Values added — more for your money 2016, a new brand logo was created: **TRODUCING CLEAN AIR.** **MAYBE YOU'VE HEARD OF IT BEFORE.** **ITRODUCING CLEAN AIR.** **NEW 1958 **Emerson-Quiet Kool AIR CONDITIONER **ANDERSON-Quiet Kool **ANDERSON-Quiet Kool

- 47. Emerson Radio has no relationship or affiliation with either Defendant and did not consent to the display of images of its products or the use of its name and brand on the EQK Website.
- 48. Upon information and belief, EQK, which was not incorporated until 2014, sold none of the historical products depicted on the EQK Website, as that website appeared until July 28, 2017, or in EQK's marketing materials. Rather, the history noted and images depicted reflect the goodwill of Emerson Radio upon which EQK has no right to trade.

Any Trademark Rights Acquired by EQK Were Only After a Period of Nonuse and Abandonment

49. EQK purports to own a United States trademark registration, U.S. Registration No. 4,688,893, for the word mark EMERSON QUIET KOOL for "Portable compact residential window and wall room air conditioning units," in International Class 11. The application (U.S. Application Serial No. 77/946,976) underlying this contestable registration was filed on March 1, 2010, on an **intent to use basis** under Section 1(b) of the Lanham Act, 15 U.S.C. 1051(b), by

Airwell Hong Kong Technologies Ltd. The application proceeded to registration on February 17, 2015, and the registration claims November 5, 2014 as the date of first use and date of first use in commerce of the mark.

- 50. When EQK's predecessor filed the application for the EMERSON QUIET KOOL registration (Reg. No. 4688893) in 2010, it did not claim years of continuous use dating back to 1949. Instead, it filed the application based only on "intent to use," a mechanism available to hold a mark *prior to* use in commerce.
- 51. On further information and belief, the application filed by EQK's predecessor on August 21, 2000 for QUIET KOOL on "Air conditioning units" also was submitted only upon an "intent to use" basis, which suggests that actual use had ceased by the year 2000.
- 52. Upon information and belief, EQK purportedly became the owner of U.S. Registration No. 4,688,893 in January 2017, through a series of assignments.
- 53. Emerson Radio did not receive notice of U.S. Application Serial No. 77/946,976 for the word mark EMERSON QUIET KOOL. While Emerson Radio maintains outside watch services to monitor potential infringing marks, this application was neither forwarded to the attention of Emerson Radio nor independently discovered by Emerson Radio. Emerson Radio did not receive actual notice of the renewed use of the EMERSON QUIET KOOL mark and U.S. Registration No. 4,688,893 and its underlying application until Defendants relaunched the EMERSON QUIET KOOL brand in the market in 2017.
- 54. Upon information and belief, the EMERSON QUIET KOOL mark was not in use as of November 5, 2014, or even by the date the mark registered as U.S. Registration No. 4,688,893 in February 2015. Upon information and belief, the actual date of first use in commerce of the mark shown in Registration No. 4,688,893 was not until May 2017.

- 55. Upon information and belief, the website associated with the domain name <emersonquietkool.com> did not launch until May 2017 at the earliest. As of March 2016, for example, the website was parked featuring the notice "EmersonQuietKool.com is coming soon."
- 56. Upon information and belief, the Emerson Quiet Kool brand was inactive for many years preceding Defendants' 2017 launch. Although Emerson Radio was aware of a historical brand named Emerson Quiet Kool, the first time in over 15 years that Emerson Radio observed any use in commerce of the EMERSON QUIET KOOL or QUIET KOOL marks was when Defendants launched the EMERSON QUIET KOOL brand in 2017, despite the fact that Emerson Radio frequently monitors the marketplace and the retail channels in which Emerson Radio participates and attends the significant industry trade shows.
- 57. Documentary evidence on file at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office ("PTO") for several trademark registrations for the marks EMERSON QUIET KOOL or QUIET KOOL shows lengthy periods of non-use and abandonment of various EMERSON QUIET KOOL and related marks. Upon information and belief, U.S. Registration No. 1,056,540 to QUIET KOOL for "air conditioning units," U.S. Registration No. 1,119,176 to EMERSON QUIET KOOL for "air conditioning units" and U.S. Registration No. 1,612,846 to EMERSON QUIET KOOL for "dehumidifiers" each were cancelled and/or abandoned by 2011, two for failure to file a Section 8 affidavit (the Section that requires the registrant to swear to continued use of the mark and submit a specimen of use) in the USPTO, and the third registration for failure to renew the registration.
- 58. Upon information and belief, Emerson Radio opposed a trademark application for EMERSON QUIET KOOL (U.S. Application Serial No. 73/595,390) in 1987, and following Emerson Radio's objection to this application, the application was abandoned.

- 59. Upon information and belief, Defendants contend that EQK's alleged predecessor in interest, Airwell-Fedders, had sales of products under the EMERSON QUIET KOOL brand in 2008 and 2009. However, upon information and belief, the products that Defendants contend they sold during 2008-2009 include only knobs and a front panel, none of which appears to display the EMERSON QUIET KOOL mark, and such products could also be used with many other units made by Airwell-Fedders and sold under other brand names.
- 60. Upon information and belief, Defendants contend model no. EQK12W was sold under the EMERSON QUIET KOOL mark from 2012-2014. However, according to publicly accessible ENERGY STAR certification records available on the U.S. Department of Energy's website for model no. EQK12W, this product could not have been on the market any earlier than June 15, 2015, and to date there remains no evidence of any actual sales of this product.
- 61. On information and belief, on December 11, 2008, Matt Giordano, National Sales Manager of Airwell-Fedders replied to an inquiry about an Emerson Quiet Kool air conditioning unit: "We still own the brand name but we have not produced them in a few years." [D.E. 22-2].
- 62. On information and belief, EQK's online messaging accompanying its re-entry into the marketplace in May 2017 also suggests a lack of any public use prior to that time. [D.E. 22-5].
- 63. Upon information and belief, the EMERSON QUIET KOOL mark was not in use and abandoned starting at some point after its sale from Emerson Radio's predecessor in the early 1980s and therefore was not likely to cause any confusion in the marketplace until Defendants' launch in 2017.
- 64. On information and belief, neither EQK nor Home Easy has continuous use of any EMERSON QUIET KOOL mark for at least a 15 year period prior to May 2017.

65. The market for consumer products has changed significantly over the years, as has the product offering of Emerson Radio, such that EQK's new use of the EMERSON QUIET KOOL mark is substantially different than any use decades ago, is likely to cause consumer confusion and constitutes new acts of infringement.

Defendants' Wrongful Conduct Has Caused Emerson Radio Harm and Risks Future Harm

- 66. The statements on the EQK Website until July 28, 2017 and in Defendants' marketing materials are false misrepresentations about Defendants' history, reputation and association with Emerson Radio.
- 67. Defendants' use of the Emerson Radio Marks, their false statements and misrepresentations about the history of Defendants and their products, and their recent display on the EQK Website and marketing materials of historical images of air conditioners actually labeled with the Emerson Radio name, confuse and deceive customers into believing that they are purchasing Emerson Radio Goods when they are actually purchasing the EQK Goods and cause consumers to mistakenly believe that there is an affiliation between the EQK Goods and Emerson Radio.
- 68. Given the similarity between trade channels and target customers for both the EQK Goods and the Emerson Radio Goods, the same consumers will encounter both the goods supplied by Emerson Radio and by Defendants. Furthermore, the type of goods offered by the parties are often offered by a single company for example, GE Appliances and LG each offer microwave ovens, refrigerators and air conditioners. Emerson Radio's products compact refrigerators, microwave ovens and other consumer appliances and housewares and Defendants' products air conditioners and dehumidifiers are all consumer appliances falling

into the same category of goods in the minds of consumers. A consumer may reasonably assume that a single company would offer both parties' goods.

69. Actual confusion has already occurred. Consumers have contacted Plaintiff by phone on several occasions confused about the source of the EQK Goods. Those consumers were complaining to Emerson Radio about the quality of the EQK Goods or seeking replacement parts for newly purchased products. These calls began almost immediately following the launch of the EQK Goods and have continued through the present. When the calls reached a certain frequency, Emerson Radio employees began to log the calls. An excerpt from these call logs appears below:

<u>Date</u>				
<u>Called</u>	<u>Customer Name</u>	Phone Number	Reason for Call	<u>Customer Comments</u>
6/21/2017	Brent Hoffman	[REDACTED]	n/a	stated being sold on HSN
6/21/2017	Lilian	[REDACTED]	Unit not working	
7/13/2017	Joe Caffiero	[REDACTED]	Parts Needed	
7/14/2017	Richard Maldonado	[REDACTED]	n/a	
7/17/2017	Kyle Langley	[REDACTED]	n/a	
7/26/2017	Debbie Brown	[REDACTED]	Parts Needed	
7/31/2017	John Arron	[REDACTED]	Parts Needed	
8/22/2017	Mike Thompson	[REDACTED]	n/a	Model #10272/Purchased
				at ABC Warehouse

- 70. Prior to May 2017, when Emerson Radio began receiving calls from consumers confused about the source of the EOK Goods, Emerson Radio had not encountered any instances of consumer confusion between the historical EMERSON QUIET KOOL brand and Emerson Radio for at least the previous 15 years.
- 71. Upon information and belief, several of the EQK Goods have received negative reviews with online retailers.
- In June 2017, a sophisticated investor in Emerson Radio contacted Emerson 72. Radio to inquire about the "EMERSON QUIET KOOL line of air conditioners" that the investor

believed were being sold by Emerson Radio. Despite his familiarity with Emerson Radio and its products, he still believed the EQK air conditioners were being sold by Emerson Radio.

- 73. Upon its initial receipt of confused consumer calls in May 2017, Emerson Radio believed that the EQK products were those of Emerson Electric Co. ("Emerson Electric"). Emerson Electric is a separate entity which owns rights in its own EMERSON mark for other specific goods and services.
- 74. Since the late 1930s, when decisions by both the Second Circuit Court of Appeals and the Court of Customs and Patent Appeals held that concurrent use of the two companies' marks on their respective products would be allowed, Emerson Radio and Emerson Electric have coexisted in the marketplace. In addition, Emerson Radio and Emerson Electric have long-standing agreements about use of their respective marks which operate to minimize any consumer confusion through, for example, the use of different logos and specific marketing requirements, as well as creating a channel for consumers to be directed to the appropriate party. Accordingly, Emerson Radio directed an unknown number of early consumer complaints to Emerson Electric per those agreements. Emerson Electric also has commenced suit in August 2017 against EQK for trademark infringement and related claims in *Emerson Electric Co. v. Emerson Quiet Kool Co. Ltd. et al.*, Civil Action No. 4:17-cv-02309 (E.D. Mo.).
- 75. Defendants' actions have created confusion in the marketplace as consumers and other industry stakeholders are already associating EQK's Goods–and their poor quality–with Emerson Radio. This confusion has harmed, and will continue to harm Emerson Radio's goodwill and business reputation.
- 76. In this competitive consumer products market, a bad consumer experience can infect not only the instant purchase, but future purchases of any other products sold under the

brand. For a company like Emerson Radio that sells so many different products, the potential for widespread harm across its entire catalogue is great.

- 77. Defendants' conduct is also likely to cause confusion amongst the wholesale buyers at Emerson Radio's retail partners such as The Home Depot, Target, and Walmart who could be led to believe that Defendants are affiliated with Emerson Radio, attribute Defendants' poor quality to Emerson Radio, and avoid carrying Emerson Radio Goods in their stores as a result.
- 78. Confusion regarding the Emerson Radio brand and its goodwill is a serious problem for Emerson Radio. Emerson Radio has built a reputation over its 100 year history that it can no longer control due to the confusion caused by Defendants' use in the market of the EMERSON QUIET KOOL mark and Defendants' deceptive advertising. Especially in the internet age, the ability to maintain brand identity is critical to companies engaged in retail sales.
- 79. There is no doubt that these Defendants are benefitting from this consumer confusion in selling and marketing their product. Upon information and belief, Defendants have achieved \$10,000,000 in sales in 2017 alone (and expect sales to reach \$30,000,000 by 2018). Upon further information and belief, however, Defendants have only spent \$200,000 on advertising. It is highly unlikely that Defendants could achieve this level of market penetration with that little investment without free-riding on the goodwill of Emerson Radio which, by comparison, has devoted over \$35,000,000 in the last 10 years in consumer advertising.
- 80. The confusion between Defendants and Emerson Radio is ongoing and continuing, compounding the harm to Emerson Radio.

Defendants Refuse to Cease Their Harmful Conduct

- 81. After discovering Defendants' wrongful conduct through the reported instances of actual consumer confusion, Emerson Radio moved promptly to attempt to minimize its damage.
- 82. After sufficient investigation, Emerson Radio sent a cease and desist letter to EQK on July 7, 2016 demanding that EQK remove all offensive content from its website and stop its infringing use of the EMERSON QUIET KOOL mark by July 14, 2017.
- 83. Emerson Radio also again contacted Emerson Electric and subsequently learned that while Emerson Electric had previously consented to EQK registering a trademark for EMERSON QUIET KOOL without alerting Emerson Radio, EQK's actual use exceeds the scope of Emerson Electric's consent.
- 84. Emerson Radio had no notice of the EQK application or registration, was not aware of EQK until first receiving calls from confused consumers about EQK products in May-July of 2017, and did not and does not itself consent to EQK's registration or use.
- 85. The time allotted for EQK to respond to Emerson Radio's cease and desist letter elapsed with no response or change in conduct.
- 86. On August 3, 2017, after Emerson Radio filed the original Complaint and Motion for a Preliminary Injunction in this action, Emerson Radio received a letter from Mr. Frank Wang, the "Administrator of EMERSON QUIET KOOL CO., LTD.," dated July 31, 2017, in response to Emerson Radio's cease and desist letter of July 6, 2017. In this letter, Mr. Wang apologized for the inclusion of the "information" and "old pictures" on the "company website" that included Emerson Radio's trademarks, agreed to remove much of the offending conduct from the EQK Website, and added a miniscule disclaimer stating "Emerson Quiet Kool is not connected with Emerson Radio or Emerson Electric . . .," explaining that this was all an "honest

mistake." The disclaimer appears (to scale) after scrolling down to the bottom of the EQK Website as:

Emerson Quiet Kool is not connected with Emerson Badio or Emerson Electric

- 87. While Defendants thereafter removed some text and images from the EQK Website, they have since contended that "use of every mark and image" that appeared on the EQK Website until July 28, 2017 is "permitted." Accordingly, the risk that these wrongful acts will resume remains.
- 88. Confusion in the marketplace persists even after changes were made to the EQK Website, as shown by the consumer confusion records referred in ¶¶ 68-72, *supra*. Furthermore, on August 22, 2017, Emerson Radio received an inquiry from a sales representative who has been working with Emerson Radio for more than 10 years, asking about availability from Emerson Radio of certain dehumidifiers which are actually sold by Defendants.
- 89. Use of the Emerson Radio Marks and other wrongful conduct by Defendants in the manner described herein constitutes infringement of the Emerson Radio Marks, unfair competition, false designation of origin and false advertising. As a result of this wrongful conduct by EQK, Emerson Radio has suffered irreparable damage to its goodwill and business reputation, and will continue to suffer such damage unless the conduct by Defendants is restrained. None of these harms are adequately compensable by monetary damages.

COUNT I TRADEMARK INFRINGEMENT UNDER 15 U.S.C. § 1114

- 90. Emerson repeats and re-alleges the allegations of the foregoing paragraphs of its Verified Complaint as if fully set forth herein.
- 91. Defendants' use of the Emerson Radio Marks without the authorization or consent of Emerson Radio in connection with the sale, offering for sale, and distribution of the EQK

Goods constitutes a use in interstate commerce that is likely to cause confusion, deception and mistake by buyers and the consuming public.

- 92. Defendants' acts create a likelihood that a false and unfair association will be made between Defendants, the EQK Goods, and Emerson Radio, so that the purchasing public is likely to believe that the EQK Goods are authentic Emerson Radio Goods, that Defendants are authorized by Emerson Radio to sell Emerson Radio Goods, that the public is purchasing the Emerson Radio Goods when they are actually purchasing the EQK Goods, and/or that Defendants and the Emerson Quiet Kool Goods are otherwise affiliated with or sponsored by Emerson Radio.
- 93. These acts by Defendants constitute trademark infringement under 15 U.S.C. § 1114.
- 94. Given the nonuse and/or abandonment of the EMERSON QUIET KOOL marks since EQK's alleged predecessor acquired those marks, and the lack of confusion during that prior period, Defendants' acts constitute new instances of trademark infringement, commencing as of May 2017.
- 95. In fact, instances of actual confusion have occurred, where consumers who purchased EQK Goods believed that the EQK Goods emanated from Emerson Radio and/or that EQK was associated with Emerson Radio.
- 96. Upon information and belief, Defendants have acted intentionally, maliciously, willfully, and in bad faith for the purposes of deceiving buyers into purchasing products from EQK based on the false belief that those products are genuine Emerson Radio Goods, that Defendants are authorized by Emerson Radio to sell the EQK Goods, and/or that Defendants and the EQK Goods are otherwise affiliated with or sponsored by Emerson Radio, and with the

specific intent to appropriate to Defendants and to employ for their own benefit the valuable goodwill and business reputation represented by the Emerson Radio Marks.

- 97. Defendants' acts have caused and, if allowed to continue, will continue to cause Emerson Radio to suffer substantial irreparable harm in the nature of loss of control over its reputation and loss of consumer goodwill. Emerson Radio has no adequate remedy at law.
- 98. As a result of the foregoing, Emerson Radio has suffered actual damages and Defendants have been unjustly enriched.
- 99. Defendants' actions have been extraordinary, willful, and in bad faith entitling Emerson Radio to treble damages, attorneys' fees and cost of suit, and to such other and further relief, as the Court shall deem appropriate in the circumstances.

COUNT II TRADEMARK INFRINGEMENT, UNFAIR COMPETITION AND FALSE DESIGNATION OF ORIGIN UNDER 15 U.S.C. § 1125(a)(1)(A)

- 100. Emerson Radio repeats and realleges the allegations of the foregoing paragraphs of its Verified Complaint as if fully set forth herein.
- 101. Defendants' use of the Emerson Radio Marks without authorization on their air conditioning and other products and their false and misleading invocation of Emerson Radio's history and historic products on the EQK Website and their marketing materials constitutes use in interstate commerce that is likely to cause confusion, or to cause mistake, or to deceive consumers as to the affiliation, connection, or association of Defendants with Emerson Radio, such that consumers may believe that Defendants' products are sponsored by, endorsed by, approved by, licensed by, authorized by, or affiliated or connected with Emerson Radio.
- 102. Defendants' acts constitute trademark infringement, false designation of origin, and unfair competition in violation of Lanham Act § 43(a), 15 U.S.C. § 1125(a).

- 103. Given the nonuse and/or abandonment of the EMERSON QUIET KOOL marks since EQK's alleged predecessor acquired those marks, and the lack of confusion during that prior period, Defendants' acts constitute new instances of trademark infringement, commencing as of May 2017.
- 104. Upon information and belief, Defendants' acts have been committed intentionally, maliciously, and willfully for the purposes of deceiving buyers into purchasing the EQK Goods based on the false belief that such products emanate or are affiliated with Emerson Radio, and with the specific intent to appropriate to Defendants and to employ for their own benefit the valuable goodwill and business reputation represented by the Emerson Radio Marks.
- 105. Defendants' acts have caused and, if allowed to continue, will continue to cause Emerson Radio to suffer substantial irreparable harm in the nature of loss of control over its reputation and loss of consumer goodwill. Emerson Radio has no adequate remedy at law.
- 106. In addition, as a result of the foregoing, Emerson Radio has suffered actual damages and Defendants have been unjustly enriched.
- 107. Defendants' actions have been extraordinary, entitling Emerson Radio to treble damages, attorneys' fees and cost of suit, and to such other and further relief as the Court shall deem appropriate in the circumstances.

COUNT III FALSE ADVERTISING UNDER 15 U.S.C. § 1125(a)(1)(B)

- 108. Emerson Radio repeats and realleges the allegations of the foregoing paragraphs of its Verified Complaint as if fully set forth herein.
- 109. Defendants' acts of promoting, advertising, and marketing the EQK Goods and their false and misleading conduct described herein constitutes false advertising in violation of Lanham Act § 43(a), 15 U.S.C. § 1125(a)(1)(B).

- 110. Given the nonuse and/or abandonment of the EMERSON QUIET KOOL marks since EQK's alleged predecessor acquired those marks, and the lack of consumer deception during that prior period, Defendants' acts constitute new instances of false advertising, commencing as of May 2017.
- 111. The misrepresentations appearing on the EQK Website until July 28, 2017 and on the marketing materials identified herein constitute false or misleading statements of material facts used in a commercial advertisement or promotion in interstate commerce. Defendants claim that they have been in business since 1949, but they have not; Defendants claim they are "one of the oldest and well-respected brands" in the industry, but they are not; Defendants falsely claim the history of Emerson Radio; Defendants misleadingly display Emerson Radio air conditioners and other products on their site; many of these products actually contain the Emerson Radio name or brand.
- 112. Those statements are material to the consumers' purchasing decisions in that they are the central focus of Defendants' advertising, suggesting to consumers that due to Defendants' long history, their products are of high quality, are reliable and can be trusted.
- 113. While Defendants removed certain offending text and images from the EQK Website in response to Emerson Radio's cease and desist letter of July 6, 2017, Defendants have since contended that "use of every mark and image" that appeared on the EQK Website is "permitted." Nothing is currently preventing Defendants from putting those text and images on the EQK Website again or from using the offending Home Easy marketing materials identified herein.

- 114. Defendants' acts deceive or are likely to deceive consumers, and indeed have already deceived consumers, and have caused and are likely to cause competitive or commercial injury to Emerson Radio in the nature of harm to its goodwill and the resulting loss of sales.
- 115. Upon information and belief, Defendants' acts have been committed intentionally, maliciously, willfully, and with the specific intent of deceiving buyers into purchasing the EQK Goods based on the false belief that such products are authentic high quality Emerson Radio Goods, are sourced by Emerson Radio, or otherwise manufactured by a company that has been engaged in the manufacture of household consumer appliance products in the United States for over 60 years.
- 116. Defendants' acts have caused and, if allowed to continue, will continue to cause Emerson Radio to suffer substantial irreparable harm in the nature of loss of control over its reputation and loss of consumer goodwill. Emerson Radio has no adequate remedy at law.
- 117. In addition, as a result of the foregoing, Emerson Radio has suffered actual damages and Defendants have been unjustly enriched.
- 118. Defendants' actions have been extraordinary, entitling Emerson Radio to treble damages, attorneys' fees and cost of suit, and to such other and further relief as the Court shall deem appropriate in the circumstances.

COUNT IV VIOLATION OF THE ANTICYBERSQUATTING CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT, 15 U.S.C. § 1125(d)

- 119. Emerson Radio repeats and realleges the allegations in the foregoing paragraphs of the Verified Complaint as if fully set forth herein.
- 120. Defendants are using the domain name www.emersonquietkool.com (the "Infringing Domain Name") to market their air conditioning and dehumidifier products.

- 121. Defendants' domain name expressly contains Emerson Radio's EMERSON trademark and is therefore confusingly similar to the Emerson Radio Marks.
- 122. The Emerson Radio Marks are distinctive, and had achieved secondary meaning before Defendants, or their agent, registered the domain name in 2013.
 - 123. The use of such a domain name infringes the Emerson Radio Marks.
- 124. Given the nonuse and/or abandonment of the EMERSON QUIET KOOL marks since EQK's alleged predecessor acquired those marks, and the lack of confusion during that prior period, Defendants' acts constitute new instances of cybersquatting, commencing as of May 2017.
- 125. Upon information and belief, Defendants registered the domain name with the bad faith intent to profit from the goodwill Emerson Radio has developed in the Emerson Radio Marks.
- 126. Upon information and belief, Defendants registered and are using a domain name which is confusingly similar to Emerson Radio's name and marks to capitalize on Emerson Radio's goodwill and reputation.
- 127. Defendants' use of the emersonquietkool.com domain creates likely and actual confusion as to the source, sponsorship, affiliation or endorsement of Defendants' site, has harmed Emerson Radio's goodwill.
- 128. Defendants' conduct has caused and will continue to cause injury to Emerson Radio and to its goodwill and reputation, and will continue to damage both Emerson Radio and the public unless enjoined by this Court and the domain name registration ordered canceled and transferred to Emerson Radio.

- 129. Defendants' aforesaid acts have caused and will cause irreparable injury to Emerson Radio. Unless such acts are restrained by this Court, Defendants' wrongful conduct will continue, and Emerson Radio will continue to suffer such injury.
- 130. As a result of the foregoing actions, Emerson Radio is entitled to have Defendants temporarily, preliminarily and permanently restrained from using, selling or otherwise transferring the Infringing Domain Name, and to monetary compensation and statutory penalties.

COUNT V TRADEMARK INFRINGEMENT UNDER N.J. STAT. ANN. § 56:3-13.16

- 131. Emerson Radio repeats and realleges the allegations in the foregoing paragraphs of the Verified Complaint as if fully set forth herein.
- 132. Defendants' use of the Emerson Radio Marks in connection with the offering for sale and sale of consumer products in this judicial district and elsewhere has caused or is likely to cause confusion, mistake and/or deception as to the source or origin, sponsorship, or approval of Defendants and/or the EQK Goods in that purchasers and others in this judicial district and elsewhere in the United States are likely to believe that Defendants are associated with or related to Emerson Radio, that Defendants are authorized by Emerson Radio to offer the EQK Goods, and that Defendants and the EQK Goods are otherwise affiliated with or sponsored by Emerson Radio.
- 133. Defendants' use of the Emerson Radio Marks in connection with the advertising, promotion, offering for sale, and sale of the EQK Goods is not authorized by Emerson Radio.
- 134. Defendants' acts injure Emerson Radio's image and reputation with consumers in this District and elsewhere in the United States by, *inter alia*, creating confusion about, and potential consumer dissatisfaction with, Emerson Radio, the Emerson Radio Marks, and/or the Emerson Radio Goods.

- 135. Given Defendants' acts alleged herein constitute trademark infringement of the Emerson Radio Marks in violation of N.J. Stat. Ann. § 56:3-13.16.
- 136. Given the nonuse and/or abandonment of the EMERSON QUIET KOOL marks since EQK's alleged predecessor acquired those marks, and the lack of confusion during that prior period, Defendants' acts constitute new instances of trademark infringement, commencing as of May 2017.
- 137. Defendants' acts alleged herein have caused and, if allowed to continue, will continue to cause Emerson to suffer substantial irreparable damage and injury. Emerson Radio has no adequate remedy at law.
- 138. As a result of the foregoing, Emerson Radio has lost profits, and Defendants have been unjustly enriched.

COUNT VI STATE TRADEMARK DILUTION UNDER N.J. STAT. ANN. § 56:13-20

- 139. Emerson Radio repeats and realleges the allegations in the foregoing paragraphs of the Verified Complaint as if fully set forth herein.
- 140. Defendants' conduct and acts alleged above are likely to cause dilution of the distinctive quality of Emerson Radio's valuable Emerson Radio Marks. In addition, Defendants' conduct and acts alleged above are likely to injure Emerson Radio's business reputation and such injury will continue unless such acts are enjoined by this Court.
- 141. Accordingly, Defendants' acts constitute trademark dilution under N.J. Stat. Ann. § 56:13-20.
- 142. Given the nonuse and/or abandonment of the EMERSON QUIET KOOL marks since EQK's alleged predecessor acquired those marks, and the lack of confusion during that

prior period, Defendants' acts constitute new instances of trademark dilution, commencing as of May 2017.

143. Emerson Radio has been irreparably injured by Defendants' aforesaid acts and has no adequate remedy at law.

COUNT VII FALSE DESIGNATION OF ORIGIN UNDER N.J. STAT. ANN. § 56:8-2

- 144. Emerson repeats and realleges the allegations in the foregoing paragraphs of the Verified Complaint as if fully set forth herein.
- 145. Defendants have employed deception, fraud, false pretense, and misrepresentation, and the knowing concealment, suppression or omission of material facts with intent that others rely upon such concealment, suppression or omission within the State of New Jersey in connection with the advertisement, offer for sale and sale of the EQK Goods, in violation of N.J. Stat. Ann. § 56:8-2.
- 146. Defendants' use of the Emerson Radio Marks in connection with the offer for sale and sale of consumer products has caused or is likely to cause confusion, mistake, or deception as to the affiliation, connection, or association of Defendants with Emerson Radio, and/or as to the source, sponsorship, or approval of Defendants or the EQK Goods, in that purchasers and others in this judicial district and elsewhere in the United States are likely to believe that Defendants are associated with or related to Emerson Radio, that Defendants have been authorized by Emerson Radio to provide the EQK Goods, and/or that Defendants and the EQK Goods are otherwise affiliated with or sponsored by Emerson Radio.
- 147. Further, Defendants' advertising and promotion of the EQK Goods under the EMERSON name and with reference to Emerson Radio falsely designates the source of these

products in a manner that is likely to cause confusion, mistake or deception among consumers as to their origin, sponsorship, or approval.

- 148. Defendants' acts constitute false designation of origin in violation of N.J. Stat. Ann. § 56:8-2.
- 149. Given the nonuse and/or abandonment of the EMERSON QUIET KOOL marks since EQK's alleged predecessor acquired those marks, and the lack of confusion during that prior period, Defendants' acts constitute new instances of false designation, commencing as of May 2017.
- 150. Defendants' acts alleged herein have caused and, if allowed to continue, will continue to cause Emerson to suffer substantial irreparable damage and injury. Emerson Radio has no adequate remedy at law.
- 151. As a result of the foregoing, Emerson Radio has lost profits, and Defendants have been unjustly enriched.

COUNT VIII TRADEMARK INFRINGEMENT UNDER NEW JERSEY COMMON LAW

- 152. Emerson Radio repeats and realleges the allegations in the foregoing paragraphs of the Verified Complaint as if fully set forth herein.
- 153. Defendants' acts are likely to confuse and deceive the public into believing that the EQK Goods advertised, promoted, offered for sale, distributed, and sold by them under the Emerson Radio Marks are authentic Emerson Radio Goods, that Defendants are authorized by Emerson Radio to sell Emerson Radio Goods, that the public is purchasing the Emerson Radio Goods when they are actually purchasing the EQK Goods, and/or that Defendants and the EQK Goods are otherwise affiliated with or sponsored by Emerson Radio.

- 154. Defendants, by the acts complained of herein, have competed unfairly with Emerson Radio, and have otherwise used the valuable reputation and goodwill of Emerson Radio and the Emerson Radio Marks in order to promote, and unfairly benefit from, the sale of the EQK Goods. Defendants are unfairly benefiting from the goodwill in the Emerson Radio Marks, and reaping benefits from the fruits of Emerson Radio's efforts and considerable investment.
- 155. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' aforesaid activities, Emerson Radio has suffered irreparable harm, and unless Defendants are restrained from continuing their wrongful acts, the harm to Emerson Radio will continue.
- 156. As a result of the foregoing, Emerson Radio has suffered actual damages, and EQK has been unjustly enriched.
 - 157. Defendants' aforesaid acts constitute trademark infringement at common law.
- 158. Given the nonuse and/or abandonment of the EMERSON QUIET KOOL marks since EQK's alleged predecessor acquired those marks, and the lack of confusion during that prior period, Defendants' acts constitute new instances of trademark infringement, commencing as of May 2017.
 - 159. Emerson Radio has no adequate remedy at law.

COUNT IX UNFAIR COMPETITION AND FALSE DESIGNATION OF ORIGIN UNDER NEW JERSEY COMMON LAW

- 160. Emerson Radio repeats and realleges the allegations in the foregoing paragraphs of the Verified Complaint as if fully set forth herein.
- 161. Defendants' use of the Emerson Radio Marks in connection with the offering for sale, distribution, and sale of the EQK Goods has caused or is likely to cause confusion, mistake, or deception as to the affiliation, connection, or association of Defendants with Emerson Radio,

and/or as to the source, sponsorship, or approval of Defendants or the EQK Goods, in that purchasers and others in this judicial district and elsewhere in the United States are likely to believe that Defendants are associated with or related to Emerson Radio, that EQK is authorized by Emerson Radio to provide consumer products under the confusingly similar "Emerson Quiet Kool" name, and/or that Defendants and the EQK Goods are otherwise affiliated with or sponsored by Emerson Radio.

- 162. Further, Defendants' advertising and promotion of the EQK Goods falsely designates the source of these goods in a manner that is likely to cause confusion, mistake or deception among consumers as to the origin, sponsorship, or approval of these goods.
- 163. Defendants' acts alleged herein constitute unfair competition and false designation of origin in violation of New Jersey common law.
- 164. Given the nonuse and/or abandonment of the EMERSON QUIET KOOL marks since EQK's alleged predecessor acquired those marks, and the lack of confusion during that prior period, Defendants' acts constitute new instances of trademark infringement, commencing as of May 2017.
- 165. Defendants' acts alleged herein have caused and, if allowed to continue, will continue to cause Emerson Radio to suffer substantial irreparable harm. Emerson Radio has no adequate remedy at law.
- 166. As a result of the foregoing, Emerson Radio has suffered actual damages, and Defendants have been unjustly enriched.

COUNT X CANCELLATION OF REGISTRATION NO. 4,688,893

167. Emerson Radio repeats and realleges the allegations in the foregoing paragraphs of the Verified Complaint as if fully set forth herein.

- 168. This is a request for an Order directing the Commissioner of Trademarks to cancel United States Trademark Registration No. 4,688,893 pursuant to Section 37 of the Lanham Act (15 U.S.C. § 1119).
- 169. As described herein, many of Plaintiff's Emerson Radio Marks are duly registered, and in many cases incontestable, and have been in continuous use for decades for a variety of household goods and appliances.
- 170. EQK's EMERSON QUIET KOOL mark is substantially identical to Plaintiff's Emerson Radio Marks and is used on goods that are similar and related to the goods covered by Plaintiff's Emerson Radio Marks. The EQK Goods are promoted and sold or offered for sale in the same or similar channels of trade as those in which the Emerson Radio Goods are promoted and sold in connection with Plaintiff's Emerson Radio Marks.
- 171. Given the similarities between Plaintiff's Emerson Radio Marks and the EMERSON QUIET KOOL mark, the similarity and related nature of the goods and channels of trade of the respective parties, the EMERSON QUIET KOOL mark is likely to cause confusion, or to cause mistake, or to deceive consumers, with consequent injury to Plaintiff and to the public in violation of Section 2(d) of the Lanham Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1052(d).
- 172. Plaintiff also believes it will be damaged by EQK's continued ownership of EQK's registration for the EMERSON QUIET KOOL mark on the ground that EQK's use and registration of the EMERSON QUIET KOOL mark falsely suggests a connection between EQK and Emerson Radio to the damage of Emerson Radio and injury to the public, in violation of Section 2(a) of the Lanham Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1052(a).
- 173. The public has, and is likely to, falsely associate the EQK Goods offered and sold under the EMERSON QUIET KOOL mark with Emerson Radio or with the Emerson Radio

Goods, falsely believe that the EQK Goods emanate from or are sponsored, endorsed or licensed by Emerson Radio, or falsely believe that there is some relationship between EQK and Emerson Radio.

- 174. EQK is in no way associated with or connected with Emerson Radio or the goods offered by Emerson Radio and its licensees.
- 175. On information and belief, EQK was and is aware of Emerson Radio's longtime use of Emerson Radio's Emerson Radio Marks in connection with various household appliances and its well-established goodwill in the minds of the public.
- 176. On information and belief, EQK intended to trade on the goodwill of Emerson Radio in using the EMERSON QUIET KOOL mark.
- 177. Allowing EQK to continue to own EQK's Registration for the EMERSON QUIET KOOL mark is contrary to Section 2(a) and (d) of the Lanham Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1052(a) and (d), damages Emerson Radio and violates or diminishes the prior and superior rights of Emerson Radio in the Emerson Radio Marks.
- 178. EQK's Registration should be cancelled because it is likely to cause confusion with Emerson Radio's Emerson Radio Marks and because the EMERSON QUIET KOOL mark falsely suggests a connection with Emerson Radio.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Emerson Radio respectfully demands judgment:

(1) That Defendants and their subsidiaries, parent(s), related companies, officers, agents, servants, employees, warehousemen, warehousers, distributors, attorneys, successors and assignees, and all persons in active concert or participation with any of them, be temporarily, preliminarily, and permanently enjoined and restrained from:

- (a) Imitating, copying or making unauthorized use of the Emerson RadioMarks, trade name or domain name either standing alone or as part of any other name or mark;
- (b) Using "Emerson" or "Emerson Radio" or any reproduction, counterfeit, copy, colorable imitation thereof, or any words confusingly similar, as a trademark, trade name, domain name or otherwise in connection with the advertising, display, sale, offering for sale or distribution of any products in any medium, including but not limited to sales on the Internet, in such a manner that is likely to cause confusion or mistake or to deceive customers or the public or give the impression that Defendants or their products or services originate with, are affiliated with, are sponsored by, approved by or in any way connected to Emerson Radio;
- (c) Using as a name or mark "Emerson Quiet Kool" or any variation thereon;
- (d) Using any name, mark or false designation of origin, or false description, or performing any act which can, or is likely to, lead members of the public to believe that any service or product provided by Defendants is in any manner associated or connected with Emerson Radio or is sold, licensed, sponsored, approved or authorized by Emerson Radio;
- (e) Using "Emerson" or "Emerson Quiet Kool" as a metatag or in any hidden data, including but not limited to, in conjunction with any internet searching tool;
- (f) Using the name "emerson" or "emersonquietkool" alone or in combination with any other words or letter, as a domain name on the Internet;

- (g) Engaging in any activity constituting unfair competition with Emerson Radio, or constituting an infringement of Emerson Radio's trademarks or trade name;
- (h) Registering or applying to register as a trademark, service mark, trade name, Internet domain name or any other source identifier or symbol of origin "Emerson Quiet Kool" or any other mark or name that infringes on or is likely to be confused with Emerson Radio's trademarks or trade name;
- (i) Passing off, inducing, or enabling others to sell or pass off any products that do not emanate from Emerson Radio or that are not distributed under the control and supervision of Emerson Radio and approved by Emerson Radio for sale under the Emerson Radio Marks, as products distributed by or with the approval of Emerson Radio;
- (j) Falsely advertising any product as Emerson Radio brand products that do not emanate from Emerson Radio or that are not distributed under the control and supervision of Emerson Radio and approved by Emerson Radio for sale under the Emerson Radio Marks;
- (k) Committing any act calculated to cause purchasers to falsely believe that the EQK Goods are those sold under the control and supervision, were sponsored, approved or connected with or guaranteed, or produced under the control and supervision of Emerson Radio;

- (l) Shipping, importing, delivering, distributing, returning, or otherwise disposing of in any manner products or inventory bearing the Emerson Radio Marks without authorization by Emerson Radio; and
- (m) Further infringing the Emerson Radio Marks and damaging Emerson Radio's goodwill and business reputation.
- (2) For injunctive relief canceling the registration by Defendants and/or Defendants' agents for the Infringing Domain Name, and transferring the Infringing Domain Name to Emerson Radio;
- (3) That Defendants be required to recall from all retailers, distributors and wholesalers, all products, packaging, promotional, and advertising material of any kind bearing the name EMERSON and any/or other colorable imitation of the Emerson Radio Marks.
- (4) That Defendants be required to account for all inventory or merchandise and other materials bearing the EMERSON mark or any marks confusingly similar to the Emerson Radio Marks and that it be required to destroy that inventory or provide it to Emerson Radio.
- (5) That Defendants be required to supply Emerson Radio with a complete list of persons and entities from whom they purchased, and to whom they distributed and/or sold, products bearing the EMERSON mark, if any.
- (6) That Defendants, within 30 days after service of judgment, with notice of entry thereof upon them, be required to file with the Court and serve upon Emerson Radio a written report under oath setting forth in detail the manner in which each has complied with paragraphs 1 through 5, above.
- (7) That Defendants be required to make an accounting of all profits, gains, and advantages that Defendants have derived as a result of their unlawful conduct.

- (8) That Defendants be required to pay to Emerson Radio, in accordance with 15 U.S.C. § 1117(a) and (b), N.J. Stat. Ann. § 56:3-13.16, N.J. Stat. Ann. § 56:8-19, and all other applicable state laws, such damages as Emerson has suffered in consequence of Defendants' infringement of the Emerson Radio Marks and from the above-described acts of misrepresentation, unfair competition, false designation, false advertising and unfair trade practices, including the following:
- (a) Three times all gains and profits derived by Defendants from the above described acts of misrepresentation, trademark infringement, unfair competition, false advertising, and unfair trade practices, or, in the alternative, three times Emerson Radio's lost profits, whichever is greater; and
- (b) All costs and attorneys' fees and costs incurred in this action including an award of treble damages as applicable.
- (9) Issue an Order directing the Commissioner of Trademarks to cancel Registration No. 4,688,893.
- (10) That Emerson Radio have such other and further relief as the Court deems just and proper in the circumstances.

JURY DEMAND

Emerson Radio demands a trial by jury of all issues triable as of right by a jury in this action.

Dated: September 19, 2017 By: /s/ Mark H. Anania

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Attorneys for Plaintiff Emerson Radio Corporation

VERIFICATION

- 1. I am the Treasurer and Senior VP Operations of Emerson Radio Corporation, the Plaintiff in this matter.
- 2. The factual allegations in the foregoing Verified Complaint are true and correct, except for such allegations made upon information and belief, which I believe to be true and correct.
- The Verified Complaint is made in good faith and without collusion for the causes set forth therein.

4. I am aware that if any of the foregoing statements made by me are willfully false,

I am subject to punishment.

Dated: September 19, 2017

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that on September 19, 2017, I caused a copy of the foregoing and all supporting documents to be served via ECF upon all counsel of record.

Dated: September 19, 2017 By: s/ Mark H. Anania